



## Administrative Policies and Procedures: 14.17

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Child Abuse Review Team (CART)</b>
<b>Authority:</b>	TCA 37-1-406; 37-1-407; 37-1-602; 37-1-606; 37-5-105; 37-5-106; 37-5-107
<b>Standards:</b>	None
<b>Application:</b>	To All Department of Children's Services Child Protective Services Employees

### Policy Statement:

DCS shall make available to each community a multi-disciplinary advisory team as the Child Abuse Review Team (CART) to review all cases in which an investigation has resulted in a finding of child abuse in its report to the Juvenile Court.

### Purpose:

To establish the roles and guidelines for CART teams. The role of the CART team is to review cases that have resulted in a finding of child abuse and to assist the department in its plans for treatment for the child and family and others as necessary.

### Procedures:

#### A. CART team composition

1. All indicated cases of child abuse must be presented to the **Child Abuse Review Team (CART)** for its review and recommendations upon closure.
2. The CART team will be composed of at least one of the following persons:
  - a) One representative of DCS who will serve as coordinator;
  - b) One physician;
  - c) One psychologist or psychiatrist; and
  - d) One social worker (other than DCS).
3. A representative of the local law enforcement agency may participate if requested by the District Attorney after notification.
4. A representative of the local Juvenile Court may participate if desired by the Juvenile Judge.
5. The department will choose its representative and all other persons on the team, with the exception of the representatives of the local law enforcement and Juvenile Court.

<b>B. CART Team responsibilities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The team will review all cases in which the investigation of the department has resulted in a finding of child abuse in its report to the Juvenile Court.</li><li>2. In reviewing cases, the team will serve as a diagnostic and prognostic service for the department.</li><li>3. The team may be called upon to review other cases when deemed appropriate by the department. The team will also assist the department in its plans for treatment for the child and family or others as necessary.</li><li>4. Upon completion of the review of each case, the team will make a written report on form <b>CS-0729, Child Abuse Review Team Review</b> of its deliberations and will submit this report to the designated Central Office Coordinator for CART.</li></ol>
<b>C. Documentation of CART activities</b>	The date that the case was reviewed, and a list of any recommendations and all actions in response to the CART recommendations will be documented. All actions taken in response to the CART recommendations will be documented on form <b>CS-0729, Child Abuse Review Team Review</b> . If the CART recommendations are not followed, the case worker will document an explanation in the TNKids case recording.

<b>Forms:</b>	<a href="#"><u>CS-0729, Child Abuse Review Team Review</u></a>
<b>Collateral documents:</b>	<i>None</i>

<b><i>Glossary:</i></b>	
<b><i>Term</i></b>	<b><i>Definition</i></b>
<b><i>Child Abuse Review Team (CART):</i></b>	A legally mandated multi-disciplinary advisory team to provide case reviews and consultation for all cases in which DCS reports to the juvenile Court a finding of indicated child abuse. The team is composed of at least a representative of DCS, who serves as team coordinator; a physician; a psychologist or psychiatrist; a social worker; a representative of the local juvenile Court, if requested by the juvenile judge; a representative of the local law enforcement agency, if requested by the district attorney general after notification. DCS chooses its representatives and all other persons on the team except for the representatives of the local law enforcement agency and the local juvenile Court, who are chosen by the chief officer of their respective operating units.